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ACTION ARA-16

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 ADS-00 AID-07 HA-06 SS-15  
SP-02 NSCE-00 L-03 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 H-01  
PM-07 SPRS-02 PA-01 ICA-11 RP-10 SR-04 /122 W  
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R 032109Z NOV 80  
FM AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7358  
INFO AMEMBASSY ASUNCION  
AMEMBASSY BRASILIA  
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS  
USMISSION GENEVA  
Z/AMEMBASSY LA PAZ 4086  
AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO  
AMEMBASSY ROME  
AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK  
USCINCSO QUARRY HTS  
USCINCLANT NORFOLK

ARGENTINA PROJECT (S200000044)  
U.S. DEPT. OF STATE, A/RPS/IPS  
Margaret P. Grafeld, Director  
( ) Release ( ) Excise ( ) Deny  
Exemption(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
Declassify: ( ) In Part ( ) In Full  
( ) Classify as ( ) Extend as ( ) Downgrade to  
Date \_\_\_\_\_ Declassify on \_\_\_\_\_ Reason \_\_\_\_\_

[REDACTED] BUENOS AIRES 8736

USEEC; ROME FOR VATICAN; CINCSO FOR INTAFF; CINCLANT FOR POLAD

EO 12065: GDS 11/4/86 (RUSER, CLAUS W.) OR-M  
TAGS: SHUM, AR  
SUBJECT: HUMAN RIGHTS SUMMARY: OCTOBER 25-31, 1980

REF: BUENOS AIRES 8548 (NOTAL)

1. (U) SUMMARY. CONTINUED CRITICISM OF ANTI-SEMITIC PROGRAM. COURT  
ORDERS REHIRING OF WOMAN FIRED AS SUBVERSIVE. NOBEL PRIZE HAS  
HUMAN RIGHTS GROUPS STILL CELEBRATING AND GOVERNMENT CONVINCED  
THAT IT HAS BEEN THE VICTIM OF SOME KIND OF INTERNATIONAL CONSPIR-  
ACY. MAJOR PARTIES HAVE TAKEN NO STAND ON THIS ISSUE. ARGENTINE  
AND PANAMIAN PRESIDENTS EXCHANGE ANGRY MESSAGES. END SUMMARY

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2. (U) TV PROGRAM CONTINUES TO ECHO: AN OCTOBER 27 TELEVISION  
BROADCAST WITH CLEAR ANTI-SEMITIC CONTENT (BUENOS AIRES 8636 NOTAL)

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CONTINUED TO PRODUCE REACTIONS IN ARGENTINA. THE DAIA, THE JEWISH COMMUNITY'S OFFICIAL VOICE, ISSUED A DECLARATION CONDEMNING THE PROGRAM'S CONTENT AND THE ATTITUDES IT REFLECTED. CLARIN, LA NACION AND LA PRENSA ALL PUBLISHED EDITORIALS STRONGLY CRITICIZING PREJUDICED ATTITUDES TOWARDS JEWS. FOR HIS PART, JAIME ROZENBLUM, WHO WAS INTERVIEWED ON THE PROGRAM, HAS DEFENDED HIS PARTICIPATION IN THE BROADCAST. IN AN OPEN LETTER DIRECTED TO DAIA, ROSENBLUM STATED THAT THE PROGRAM WAS HIS IDEA AND NOT THAT OF THE INTERVIEWER, ENRIQUE LLAMAS DE MADARIAGA, WHO CONDUCTED THE INTERVIEW WITH HIM. ROZENBLUM EXPRESSED THE BELIEF THAT THE PROGRAM SERVED A HEALTHY PURPOSE BY ALLOWING HIM TO ANSWER QUESTIONS THAT "SOME MIGHT CONSIDER DAMAGING."

3. (U) ANOTHER COURT ORDER TO GOVERNMENT: A COURT HAS ORDERED THE MUNICIPALITY OF BUENOS AIRES TO REHIRE HILDA PARISIER, AN EMPLOYEE WHO WAS FIRED ON GROUNDS SHE WAS A SUBVERSIVE. THE COURT ALSO ORDERED THE MUNICIPALITY TO PAY HER DAMAGES. THE COURT FOUND THAT THE WOMAN HAD BEEN FIRED WITHOUT DUE PROCESS AND WITHOUT CAUSE, IN VIOLATION OF HER CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS. THE TERMS OF THE COURT'S DECISION WERE HIGHLY CRITICAL OF THE CONDUCT OF THE MUNICIPAL AUTHORITIES.

4. (U) COMMENT: OVER THE PAST YEAR THERE HAVE BEEN SEVERAL OTHER SIMILAR ORDERS BY COURTS ORDERING THE MUNICIPALITY TO REHIRE AND REINSTATE INDIVIDUALS WHO HAD BEEN FIRED FOR ALLEGEDLY BEING SUBVERSIVES.

5. (U) NOBEL PRIZE STILL CONTROVERSIAL: LINES HAVE BEEN SHARPLY DRAWN OVER THE AWARDING OF THE NOBEL PRIZE TO ARGENTINE HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVIST PEREZ ESQUIVEL. ON THE ONE SIDE IS THE GOVERNMENT  
[REDACTED]  
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WHICH BY WORD AND DEED IS CONVINCED THAT THE NOBEL COMMITTEE'S ACTION WAS MOTIVATED IN LARGE PART BY A DESIRE TO ATTACK THE GOA. MANY WITHIN THE GOVERNMENT ARE CONVINCED THAT THE COMMITTEE'S ACTION WAS THE RESULT OF SOME GIGANTIC INTERNATIONAL CABAL DIRECTED BY LEFTISTS AND MONTONEROS WHOSE AIM IS TO BRING DOWN THE GOA. ON THE OTHER SIDE, OF COURSE, ARE THE LOCAL HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISTS WHOSE PLEAS AT PEREZ ESQUIVEL'S DESIGNATION IS UNDIMINISHED. NO IMPORTANT POLITICAL PARTY HAS YET IDENTIFIED ITSELF WITH PEREZ ESQUIVEL AND MOST PROMINENT POLITICIANS HAVE REMAINED PUBLICLY MUTE ON THE SUBJECT. HOWEVER, BOTH DEOLINDO BITTEL, THE RANKING PERONIST LEADER, AND ARTURO ILLIA, THE FORMER PRESIDENT, HAVE PUBLICLY CONGRATULATED PEREZ ESQUIVEL.

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6. [REDACTED] HUMAN RIGHTS ACTIVISTS FORSEE A BUSY YEAR FOR PEREZ ESQUIVEL, THEY TELL US. ONE ORGANIZATION, THE CENTER FOR LEGAL AND SOCIAL STUDIES (CELS), IS TRYING TO ORGANIZE A DINNER IN HIS HONOR HERE. TO DATE, HOWEVER, THEY HAVE NOT FOUND A RESTAURANT OWNER WHO IS WILLING TO RENT HIS PREMISES FOR SUCH PURPOSES.

6. (U) VIDELA VERSUS ROYO: PRESIDENT VIDELA AND PANAMANIAN PRESIDENT ROYO HAVE EXCHANGED ANGRY PUBLIC MESSAGES. ROYO KICKED THINGS OFF BY SENDING VIDELA A PUBLIC TELEGRAM THAT CRITICIZED THE GOA FOR ALLEGEDLY PROHIBITING THE DISTRIBUTION OF PABLO NERUDA'S WORKS. VIDELA WROTE BACK, IN A MESSAGE THAT WAS PUBLISHED HERE NOVEMBER 1, THAT ROYO'S "VERSION IS ABSOLUTELY INEXACT". VIDELA WENT ON TO BERATE ROYO FOR "PREMATURELY" PUBLISHING HIS LETTER WHICH, HE SAID, UNDERMINES THE "MUTUAL RESPECT" ON WHICH SOVEREIGN RELATIONS REST.

7. [REDACTED] COMMENT: NERUDA'S WORKS HAVE BEEN TAKEN OFF THE OFFICIAL CIRCULUM BUT ARE READILY AVAILABLE IN ARGENTINA. BUT BEYOND THIS ERROR, THE ARGENTINES UNDOUBTEDLY FOUND THE HECTORING, PREACHY TONE OF ROYO'S MESSAGE DEEPLY OFFENSIVE. EVEN MORE OFFENSIVE TO THE GOA ARE PRIVATE REPORTS, TO WHICH THE GOA IS NO DOUBT PRIVY, THAT PANAMA'S OMAR TORRIJOS IS SUPPLYING MONEY TO ISABELLITA PERON. ONE STORY HOLDS THAT MOISES TORRIJOS, THE PRESIDENT'S BROTHER,

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DELIVERED DOLS ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND TO ISABELLA TWO MONTHS AGO.  
SHLAUDEMAM

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